



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 3

Budget Estimates 2020-2021

Report 43

May 2021

3



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Portfolio Committee No. 3 - Education

Budget Estimates 2020-2021

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Chair: Hon. Mark Latham MLC.

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Table of contents

	Terms of reference	iv
	Committee details	vi
	Chair's foreword	vii
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
	Budget Estimates 2020-2021	1
	Hearings	1
	Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions	2
Chapter 2	Issues raised during hearings	3
	Skills and Tertiary Education	3
	Education and Early Childhood Learning	4
Appendix 1	Witnesses at hearings	5
Appendix 2	Minutes	7

Terms of reference

1. That the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2020-2021 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That, further to the resolution of the House of 11 November 2020 adopting the 2021 sitting calendar¹, the 2020-2021 initial budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Thursday 25 February 2021

PC 6 Transport and Roads

PC 1 Special Minister of State, Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs and the Arts

Day Two: Friday 26 February 2021

PC 4 Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

PC 5 Families, Communities and Disability Services

Day Three: Monday 1 March 2021

PC 3 Tertiary Education and Skills

PC 4 Water, Property and Housing

PC 1 The Legislature

Day Four: Tuesday 2 March 2021

PC 5 Attorney General and Prevention of Domestic Violence

PC 7 Energy and Environment

Day Five: Wednesday 3 March 2021

PC 3 Education and Early Childhood Learning

PC 4 Agriculture and Western New South Wales

Day Six: Thursday 4 March 2021

PC 2 Health and Medical Research

PC 1 Premier

Day Seven: Friday 5 March 2021

PC 5 Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

PC 6 Better Regulation and Innovation

Day Eight: Monday 8 March 2021

PC 1 Treasury

PC 6 Customer Service

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, p 1563.

Day Nine:	Tuesday 9 March 2021
PC 5	Counter Terrorism and Corrections
PC 7	Planning and Public Spaces
Day Ten:	Wednesday 10 March 2021
PC 1	Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney
PC 6	Regional Transport and Roads
Day Eleven:	Thursday 11 March 2021
PC 7	Local Government
PC 2	Mental Health, Regional Youth and Women
Day Twelve:	Friday 12 March 2021
PC 5	Police and Emergency Services
PC 1	Finance and Small Business

3. That for the purposes of the Budget Estimates inquiry 2020-2021:
- each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin at 9.30 am and conclude by 8.30 pm,
 - the committees must hear evidence in public,
 - the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure,
 - witnesses, including ministers, may not make an opening statement before the committee commences questions,
 - members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two business days, following a hearing, and
 - answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after they have been circulated to committee members.
4. That the committees present a final report to the House by 30 June 2021.

The terms of reference were referred to the committee by the Legislative Council on Wednesday 18 November 2020.²

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 18 November 2020, pp 1693-1695.

Committee details

Committee members

The Hon Mark Latham MLC	Pauline Hanson's One Nation	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Anthony D'Adam MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Wes Fang MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Scott Farlow MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC	Australian Labor Party	
Mr David Shoebridge MLC	The Greens	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Mr Justin Field MLC	Independent
The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Australian Labor Party

Contact details

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Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021. This annual inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Legislative Council.

Portfolio Committee No. 3 is responsible for the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas:

- Education and Early Childhood Learning
- Skills and Tertiary Education.

The key evidence gathering mechanism of this Inquiry is through the conduct of public hearings. This report lists the key issues raised during the hearings. Transcripts, tabled documents and additional answers provided after the hearings are published on the [Inquiry's webpage](#).

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the ministers and their officers who assisted the committee during this important inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members and the secretariat staff for their contributions to the inquiry process.



Hon Mark Latham MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Inquiry into Budget Estimates is one of the key mechanisms for parliamentary committees to scrutinise government expenditure, performance and effectiveness. It holds ministers and government officials to account and provides a greater level of transparency to the public.

The Inquiry is conducted annually by the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committees. Each committee examines the budget estimates of its responsible portfolios, with ministers and senior public servants as the primary witnesses. The evidence taking process of the Inquiry consists of answers provided during public hearings and answers to post-hearing written questions (known as supplementary questions). There is no provision for written submissions.

Budget Estimates 2020-2021

- 1.1 The Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 ('the Inquiry') was referred to the portfolio committees for inquiry and report on 11 November 2020 by the Legislative Council.³ The budget estimates resolution establishing the Inquiry, which sets out the rules for the Inquiry, is reproduced on page iv and v.
- 1.2 The resolution authorised the committees to conduct one round of initial hearings, from 9.30 am to 8.30 pm, to examine all portfolios for each minister.⁴
- 1.3 In previous estimates inquiries, three rounds of hearings (initial, supplementary and further) were conducted and portfolios under the same minister were examined for six hours duration per hearing. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, hearings were delayed this year with no provision for supplementary or further hearings.
- 1.4 The budget estimates resolution stated that the committee could seek explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.⁵ Each committee was free to determine the time and allocation of questions for each hearing within the parameters set by the resolution.
- 1.5 Initial hearings were held over 12 days from 25 February to 26 February 2021, 1 March to 5 March 2021, and 8 March to 12 March 2021.⁶

Hearings

- 1.6 The committee held two public hearings as follows:
 - Monday 1 March 2021 – Skills and Tertiary Education
 - Wednesday 3 March 2021 – Education and Early Childhood Learning.

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, pp 1563.

⁴ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, pp 1563.

⁵ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 18 November 2020, pp 1681-1683.

⁶ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 11 November 2020, p 1563.

Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

- 1.7 Transcripts of the hearings, questions taken on notice, supplementary questions and answers to these questions are available on the Budget Estimates web page at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budget-estimates.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

This chapter provides a brief summary by portfolio of the key issues raised during the hearings.

Skills and Tertiary Education

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Skills and Tertiary Education was held on Monday 1 March 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- One TAFE reforms (staffing and establishment restructure)
- 20 year NSW Infrastructure Strategy and the TAFE Strategic Asset Management Plan
- High school/TAFE vocational education interface
- Divestment plan and TAFE site closures
- Charles Sturt University
- Apprenticeships
- Sale of TAFE NSW assets, including the former NSW TAFE Campus at Scone
- Casualisation of the (higher education) teaching workforce
- Progress on improving access to vocational education and training in schools
- Educational qualifications of TAFE Board members
- Arrangements to enable international students to study at universities in NSW following COVID
- Funding arrangements for Community Service Obligation Programs
- Future strategic direction of TAFE NSW
- Salaries of the TAFE NSW Managing Director and of Vice-Chancellors at NSW Universities
- Student difficulties obtaining Recognition of Prior Learning for VET courses
- Possible land use around the new Western Sydney Aerotropolis for higher education or training purposes.

Education and Early Childhood Learning

2.2 A hearing examining the portfolio of Education and Early Childhood Learning was held on Wednesday 3 March 2021. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Asbestos in schools – remediation, status, registration
- Before and after school care
- Unspent funds in school budgets
- Implementation of certain reports:
 - Telethon Kids Institute report in 2019 re behavioural change
 - Gallop report on teacher workload
 - Auditor-General's report on school annual reporting
- Progress of new schools announced previously (including South-West Sydney Selective, STEM Catholic school)
- Facilities at certain schools (including demountable facilities at Ryde and Yanco, mould at Wee Waa)
- Qualifications and vetting of external providers delivering mental health & SRE programs
- Make-up and recruitment of Department of Education executive
- 'Untimed syllabus' proposal
- Senior executive expenses at Department of Education
- People Matters Survey response rate and actions
- Evidence base for new classroom layout
- Recruitment in the Department, including secondments, 457 visas
- Overcrowding in South Coast schools
- COVID tutors
- Implementation of recommendations from PC3 report
- WH&S in schools
- New selective schools' test
- Maintenance liabilities in schools
- Resilience doughnuts.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Skills and Tertiary Education – Monday 1 March 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP	Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education
Mr Mark Scott	Secretary, Department of Education
Mr Steffen Faurby	Managing Director, TAFE NSW
Ms Chloe Read	Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, Department of Education
Mr David Collins	Acting Executive Director, Skills and Higher Education, Department of Education
Ms Julie Tickle	Acting Chief People and Culture Officer, TAFE NSW
Mr Michael Alacqua	Chief Transformation Officer, TAFE NSW
Dr Margot McNeill	Chief Product and Quality Officer, TAFE NSW
Ms Kirsty Hosea	Chief Delivery Officer, TAFE NSW
Mr Vik Naidoo	Chief Strategy and Commercial Officer, TAFE NSW

Education and Early Childhood Learning – Wednesday 3 March 2021

Name	Position and Organisation
Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC	Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning
Mr Mark Scott	Secretary, Department of Education
Mr Paul Martin	Chief Executive Officer, NSW Education Standards Authority
Ms Georgina Harrisson	Group Deputy Secretary, School Improvement and Education Reform Group, Department of Education
Ms Lisa Alonso Love	Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, Department of Education
Ms Ruth Owen	Deputy Secretary, Learning Improvement, Department of Education

Name	Position and Organisation
Ms Leanne Nixon	Deputy Secretary, School Performance North, Department of Education
Mr Murat Dizdar	Deputy Secretary, School Performance South, Department of Education
Ms Yvette Cachia	Chief People Officer, People Group, Department of Education
Mr Anthony Manning	Chief Executive Officer, School Infrastructure NSW, Department of Education
Mr David Withey	Chief Operating Officer, Operations Group, Department of Education
Ms Marnie O'Brien	Executive Director, Health and Safety, Department of Education.

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 33

Tuesday 2 February 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 3 – Education

Room 1254, Parliament House, Sydney at 3.00 pm

1. Members present

Mr Latham, *Chair*

Mr Mason-Cox, *Deputy Chair* (via Webex)

Mr D'Adam

Mr Fang

Mr Farlow (via Webex)

Mrs Houssos (via Webex)

Mr Shoebridge (via Webex)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Fang: That draft minutes no. 32 be confirmed.

3. Inquiry into the Future of the NSW Tertiary Education Sector—Resolution for the tabling of the report

The committee noted that the following committee resolution was agreed to via email on 19 January 2021:

Mr Farlow moved: That the draft report, as amended, be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House on 22 January 2021.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Fang, Mr Farlow, Mr Latham, Mr Mason-Cox.

Noes: Mr D'Adam, Mrs Houssos, Mr Shoebridge.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted the Budget Estimates timetable for 2020-2021 agreed to by the House, with hearings commencing at 9.30 am and concluding by 8.30 pm, for Portfolio Committee No. 3:

Date	Portfolio
Monday 1 March 2021	Tertiary Education and Skills (Lee)
Wednesday 3 March 2021	Education and Early Childhood Learning (Mitchell)

4.3 Allocation of question time and total hearing time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That with no Government questions being asked:

- the Tertiary Education and Skills portfolio be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.
- the Education and Early Childhood Learning portfolios be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions.

4.4 Witness requests

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That:

- the list of witnesses suggested by the Chair be circulated to the committee along with last year's hearing schedules, and
- the committee provide witness requests to the secretariat by 12 pm, Thursday 4 February 2021.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Shoebridge: That the committee invite Mr Kevin Conolly MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Education to appear as a witness at the hearing.

4.5 Witness appearance time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Fang: That:

- the Ministers appear from 9.30 am until 12.30 pm
- the Parliamentary Secretary appear from 9.30 am until 12.30 pm
- departmental staff appear from 9.30 am until 5.15 pm.

5. ***

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.32 pm, until Monday 1 March 2021, Macquarie Room, Parliament House, (Tertiary Education and Skills hearing).

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 34

Monday 1 March 2021

Portfolio Committee No.3

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.17 am

1. Members present

Mr Latham, Chair

Mr Mason-Cox, Deputy Chair

Mr D'Adam

Mr Fang

Mr Farlow

Mrs Houssos

Mr Shoebridge (from 9.32 am until 12.21 pm, and from 2.42 pm)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Farlow: That draft minutes no. «Previous_Minutes_» be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 29 January 2021 - Email from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Government Whip to secretariat, advising of Government substitutions for Budget Estimates 2020-2021 initial meetings
- 4 February 2021 - Letter from Mr Tim Payne, Director of Higher Education Policy and Projects, Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Sydney University, to secretariat, clarifying an answer given to a question on notice dated 12 October 2020 for the future development of the NSW tertiary education sector inquiry and requesting relevant committee records be corrected
- 8 February 2021 - Email from Mr Rick Cortese, Office of Mr Kevin Conolly MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Education to secretariat, confirming attendance of Mr Conolly for the Education and Early Childhood Learning hearing on 3 March 2021
- 12 February 2021 - Email from Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Government Whip to secretariat, advising of Government substitutions and participating members for Budget Estimates 2020-2021 initial hearings
- 16 February 2021 - Email from Ms Shannon Hall, Office of Minister Mitchell to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Education and Early Childhood Learning hearing on 3 March 2021
- 17 February 2021 - Email from Mr Mitchell Potts, Office of Minister Lee to secretariat, confirming witness attendance for the Skills and Tertiary Education hearing on 1 March 2021
- 18 February 2021 - Email from Mr Rick Cortese, Office of Mr Kevin Conolly MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Education to secretariat, declining invitation to attend the Education and Early Childhood Learning hearing on 3 March 2021.

Sent

- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 – 2021 initial hearings
- 4 February 2021 - Email from secretariat to Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, attaching witness invitation for Budget Estimates 2020 – 2021 initial hearings.

4. Correspondence relating to the report on the Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector

The committee noted that it previously resolved via email to issue an erratum and other related actions relating to the Committee's report on the Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Farlow: That the committee:

- note correspondence from Tim Payne, Director of Higher Education Policy and Projects, Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Sydney University, dated 4 February 2021, related to an error in the Committee's report entitled Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector
- publish the correspondence of Mr Payne
- publish the erratum to the report noting the error in the Report entitled Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector
- authorise the secretariat to take necessary actions to correct the Chair's media release.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021 – initial hearings

5.1 Chair's proposed conduct of hearings

Mr Fang moved: That members are discouraged from participating in two Estimates committees simultaneously. They should show the Committee the respect of consistent attendance, listening to other members asking questions and receiving answers, not just their own. Accordingly, the allocation of time to non-government members shall be proportional to the time they spend at the hearing.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Fang, Mr Farlow, Mr Latham, Mr Mason-Cox.

Noes: Mr D'Adam, Mrs Houssos.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Mr Fang moved: That if there are more than 300 supplementary questions for the Committee, the Minister and Department shall have 50 days in which to answer them, not the standard 21.

Question put.

The committee divided.

Ayes: Mr Fang, Mr Farlow, Mr Latham, Mr Mason-Cox.

Noes: Mr D'Adam, Mrs Houssos.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

5.2 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Skills and Tertiary Education be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

5.3 Public hearing: Skills and Tertiary Education

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, was admitted.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Mark Scott, Secretary, Department of Education
- Mr Steffen Faurby, Managing Director, TAFE NSW
- Ms Chloe Read, Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, Department of Education
- Mr David Collins, Acting Executive Director, Skills and Higher Education, Department of Education
- Ms Julie Tickle, Acting Chief People and Culture Officer, TAFE NSW
- Mr Michael Alacqua, Chief Transformation Officer, TAFE NSW
- Dr Margot McNeill, Chief Product and Quality Officer, TAFE NSW
- Ms Kirsty Hosea, Chief Delivery Officer, TAFE NSW
- Mr Vik Naidoo, Chief Strategy and Commercial Officer, TAFE NSW.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Skills and Tertiary Education open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 12.30 pm.

The public hearing continued.

The public hearing concluded at 4.53 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.54 pm, until 9.15 am, Wednesday 3 March 2021, Macquarie Room, Budget Estimates hearing — Education and Early Childhood Learning.

Merrin Thompson and Rhia Victorino
Committee Clerks

Minutes no. 35

Wednesday 3 March 2021

Portfolio Committee No. 3 - Education

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.19 am

1. Members present

Mr Latham, *Chair*

Mr Mason-Cox, *Deputy Chair*

Ms Boyd (substituting for Mr Shoebridge from 10.18 am until 10.46 am)

Mr D'Adam

Mr Fang

Mr Farlow

Mr Field (participating from 2.45 pm until 3.25 pm)

Mrs Houssos

Mr Mookhey (participating from 2.00 pm until 3.08 pm)

Mr Shoebridge (from 9.22 am until 10.20 am, and from 10.38 am)

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021— initial hearings

2.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Education and Early Childhood Learning be examined concurrently by Opposition and Crossbench members only, from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, and from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with an additional 15 minutes reserved for Government questions for each of the morning and afternoon sessions.

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Houssos: That Mr Justin Field MLC be allocated 5 minutes of question time taken from Crossbench time.

2.2 Public hearing: Education and Early Childhood Learning

Minister, departmental witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, was admitted.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Mark Scott, Secretary, Department of Education.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Paul Martin, Chief Executive Officer, NSW Education Standards Authority
- Ms Georgina Harrison, Group Deputy Secretary, School Improvement and Education Reform Group, Department of Education
- Ms Lisa Alonso Love, Deputy Secretary, Education and Skills Reform, Department of Education
- Ms Ruth Owen, Deputy Secretary, Learning Improvement, Department of Education
- Ms Leanne Nixon, Deputy Secretary, School Performance North, Department of Education

- Mr Murat Dizdar, Deputy Secretary, School Performance South, Department of Education
- Ms Yvette Cachia, Chief People Officer, People Group, Department of Education
- Mr Anthony Manning, Chief Executive Officer, School Infrastructure NSW, Department of Education
- Mr David Withey, Chief Operating Officer, Operations Group, Department of Education
- Ms Marnie O'Brien, Executive Director, Health and Safety, Department of Education.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Education and Early Childhood Learning open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr D'Adam tendered the following document:

- Public Schools NSW protocol document, entitled *Protocols for schools where recess, closure, amalgamation or other educational provision models are to be considered*, dated December 2014.

Mrs Houssos tendered the following documents:

- Bundle of two documents produced under standing order 52 entitled *Education - key facts*, dated 27 July 2020 and 19 August 2020.
- Table of school upgrade projects.

The Minister withdrew at 12.31 pm.

The public hearing continued.

Mr Mookhey tendered the following documents:

- Page 85 of the NSW Department of Education Annual Report 2018 (marked B)
- Page 119 of the NSW Department of Education Annual Report 2019 (marked C)
- Page 103 of the NSW Department of Education Annual Report 2019 (marked D).

Resolved, on the motion of Mrs Houssos: That the hearing continue until 5.30 pm.

Mr Scott tendered the following document:

- Further information on school upgrade projects.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.37 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mason-Cox: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Education and Early Childhood Learning hearing held on Wednesday 3 March 2021:

- Public Schools NSW protocol document, titled *Protocols for schools where recess, closure, amalgamation or other educational provision models are to be considered*, dated December 2014, tendered by Mr Anthony D'Adam MLC
- Bundle of documents titled *Education – key facts*, dated 27 July 2020 and 19 August 2020, tendered by Mrs Courtney Houssos MLC
- Untitled table of school upgrade projects, tendered by Mrs Courtney Houssos MLC
- Page 85 of the NSW Department of Education Annual Report 2018 (marked B), tendered by Mr Daniel Mookhey MLC

- Page 119 of the NSW Department of Education Annual Report 2019 (marked C) tendered by Mr Daniel Mookhey MLC
- Page 103 of the NSW Department of Education Annual Report 2019 (marked D) tendered by Mr Daniel Mookhey MLC
- Untitled document providing further information on school upgrade projects, tendered by Mr Scott, Secretary, Department of Education.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.38 pm, until *Sine die*.

Monica Loftus and Laura Ismay
Committee Clerks

Draft minutes no. 40

Thursday 6 May 2021
Portfolio Committee No. 3 - Education
Members' Lounge, Parliament House, 2.01 pm

1. Members present

Mr Latham, *Chair*
Mr D'Adam
Mr Fang (from 2.02 pm)
Mr Farlow
Mrs Houssos
Mr Shoebridge (from 2.02 pm)

2. Apologies

Mr Mason-Cox

3. ***

4. Inquiry into the Review of the NSW School Curriculum

4.1 Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 22 April 2021 – Email from individual to the committee about text book use and the decline in student performance in mathematics.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2020-2021

5.1 Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 29 March 2021 – Ms Amelia Eames, Office of Minister Lee to secretariat, providing further requested information to answers to questions on notice from the Skills and Tertiary Education hearing held 1 March 2021.

Sent

- 4 March 2021 - Email from the secretariat to Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 8 March 2021 - Email from the secretariat to Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted and supplementary questions
- 29 March 2021 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Amelia Eames, Office of Minister Lee, requesting the provision of further information to answers to questions on notice from the Skills and Tertiary Education hearing held 1 March 2021.

5.2 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions

The committee noted that the following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution establishing the Inquiry:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP, Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education, received 25 March 2021
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, received 29 March 2021.

5.3 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair submitted his draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2020-2021*, which, having been previously circulated, as taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Fang: That:

- a) The draft report be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House;
- b) The transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;
- c) Upon tabling, all unpublished transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry, be published by the committee, except for those documents kept confidential by resolution of the committee;
- d) The committee secretariat correct any typographical, grammatical and formatting errors prior to tabling;
- e) That the report be tabled on Tuesday 11 May 2021.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 2.04 pm, *Sine die*.

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

